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SOVIET SCIENTIFIC MEDICAL MEETING AT TASHKENT

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F. Krotkov, Vice-President,
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The Academy of Medical Sciences USSR and the Ministry of Health Uzbek SSR called a scientific session to be held at Tashkent 20-25 September 1954. The meeting will be devoted to problems of regional pathology and medical parasitology. In addition to Soviet medical scientists and biologists, foreign scientists representing various countries of the Near East, Far East, and Southeast Asia will participate in the meeting.

Notable Soviet scientists will present reports in the main subdivisions of the program. A considerable number of reports will be given by scientific workers who are active in Central Asiatic and Trans-Caucasian republics.

The organization, on an extensive scale, of expeditions and of laboratory and clinical investigations in the USSR formed the basis for a theory of natural reservoirs of transmissible and parasitic diseases. During recent years, the problem of the existence of reservoirs of some nontransmissible diseases has also been advanced.

On the first day of the meeting, reports dealing with diseases that have natural reservoirs will be given. The leading report, "The Formation of Natural Reservoirs of Transmissible and Parasitic Diseases in Connection With the Characteristics of Terrain Epidemiology," will be given by Academician Ye. N. Pavlovskiy, who is the originator of the theory of natural reservoirs. A report on rickettsioses which is based on data collected by Soviet investigators will be given by Prof P. F. Zdrodovskiy, Active Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR.

It is known that our national investigators, O. Mochutkovskiy and D. Popov, laid the basis for the contemporary science of rickettsioses 75 years ago. At the same time, the fact that one of the rickettsioses is transmitted by arthropods was established by G. N. Minkh. During recent years, Soviet scientists, starting from the teaching of Academician Ye. N. Pavlovskiy in regard to the existence of natural reservoirs of transmissible infections, have developed the basic concepts of the teaching on rickettsioses. A monograph on the subject by P. F. Zdrovodskiy and Ye. M. Golinevich in 1953 was a major contribution to medical science and the practice of the Soviet public-health service. The research done by P. F. Zdrodovskiy and his collaborators during recent years will be reviewed in reports presented by this scientist and by members of his group.

During the past 10-20 years, Soviet scientists have discovered and investigated new diseases of virus etiology which are characterized by a hemorrhagic syndrome and accompanied by characteristic changes of the blood, nervous system, and internal organs. These diseases, which are unified into the group of hemorrhagic fevers, attract, to an increasing extent, the attention of research workers and practical physicians. The contemporary status of the problem of hemorrhagic virus fevers will be discussed in a report given by Prof M. P. Chumakov, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR. The natural reservoirs of human diseases in the Kara-Kum Desert lands and on the territory of Kazakhstan will be discussed by Prof P. A. Petrishcheva, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, and Prof I. G. Galuzo.

The problem of leishmaniasis in the USSR will be discussed in a paper by Prof N. I. Khodukin, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR. Progress achieved in the investigation of the pathogenesis, therapy, and prophylaxis of malaria during recent years has enabled public-health organs to plan the

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elimination of malaria as a practically feasible task. The execution of the whole complex of antimalaria measures under a single state plan will assure the success of this huge enterprise. The problem of malaria will be discussed in a number of reports given at the meeting. The discussion of this subject will be opened by an address given by Prof P. E. Sergiyev, Active Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, under the title, "The Scientific Basis of the Elimination of Malaria in the USSR." L. M. Isayev and Kh. Kh. Ruzinov will tell about the successes of the public-health organs in the control of malaria in the Uzbek SSR and in the Kirghiz SSR. A report entitled "Population Biology as one of the Theoretical Bases of the Control of Mosquitos," will be given by Prof V. N. Beklemishev, Active Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR.

An important place in the work of the Tashkent meeting will be occupied by problems of helminthology, a field of work in which Soviet science occupies a key position. During recent years, Soviet pharmacologists have approached closely the solution of the problem of complete elimination of helminthoses by exterminating those helminths which infest both human beings and animals. The principal report dealing with this problem will be given Academician K. I. Skryabin.

Of great scientific and practical importance will be the report given by Prof V. P. Pod'yapol'skaya on one of the acute problems of scientific and practical medicine, that of the connection between helminthoses and infections. The interrelationship between invasion and infection, which had been investigated experimentally, made it possible to determine that infection with microbes can be accomplished by the penetration of adult and larva phases of helminths and to establish how microbes enter the organism in uncommon ways, with the result that an infectious disease develops. Of great importance, from the clinical standpoint, are the data obtained on the development of acute diseases in cases when the larva of ascarides migrate within the organism of animals which have a latent [bacterial] infection.

Experience acquired in the effective control of ancylostomatosis will be discussed in detail in a report by Prof N. G. Kamalova. Problems connected with the elimination of dracunculosis (rishta) in the Uzbek SSR will be discussed by A. A. Kadyrev, Candidate of Medical Sciences. Because of the efforts of Soviet medical workers, this disease, which was described 1,500 years ago in ancient Egyptian manuscripts, has been completely eliminated from the territory of Uzbekistan. Before the revolution, dracunculosis was widespread among the population of Bukhara, Samarkand, and other localities. It is known from literature that Bukhara was one of the oldest foci of dracunculosis.

Soviet scientists active in the fields of medicine and veterinary medicine have made a major contribution to the knowledge of brucellosis and have given to practical physicians effective methods for controlling this disease. Problems of the pathogenesis, immunology, therapy, and prophylaxis of brucellosis will also be discussed at the meeting. The leading communication on this subject, "Pathogenesis, Clinical Aspects, and Therapy of Brucellosis," will be given by G. P. Rudnev, Active Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR. I. K. Karakulov, Kh. A. Yunusova, and T. Kh. Nadzhmiddinov are scientists from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan who will also present a report on the epidemiology, prophylaxis, and treatment of brucellosis.

The last day of the meeting will be devoted to reports by R. S. Sagatov, Minister of Health Uzbek SSR, and S. R. Karynbayev, Minister of Health Kazakh SSR. In these reports and in other reports, current problems of the public-health protection of the population of Central Asiatic Soviet republics will be discussed. Z. M. Dzhamalova, Deputy Minister of Health Uzbek SSR, will tell about the achievements and the tasks still to be accomplished in the protection of the health of women and children in Uzbekistan.

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A report on the scientific basis of Soviet public-health protection will be given by Prof I. G. Kochergin, Deputy Minister of Health USSR.

Since foreign scientists will participate in the forthcoming Tashkent meeting, all reports and addresses will be transmitted over the wired radio network simultaneously in Russian, Uzbek, Chinese, English, and French.

The government of the Uzbek SSR has granted the use of the Theater imeni Alisher Navoyi for the meeting.

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